

## Message Text

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S/S - MR. BRIDGES

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO USDEL MTN GENEVA

S E C R E T STATE 238049

EXDIS, FOR AMBASSADOR WALKER FROM GEIMER

E.O. 11652: XGDS - 3

TAGS: ETRD, GATT

SUBJECT: GATT PERSONNEL

1. ADDITIONAL CANDIDATE SUGGESTED BY AMBASSADOR DENT IS EX-FOREIGN MINISTER OF JAPAN KIICHI MIYAZAWA. PERSONS HERE IN GOOD POSITION TO JUDGE HIM SPEAK VERY HIGHLY OF HIM. HE IS SAID TO BE VERY INTELLIGENT AND QUICK, SPEAKS EXCELLENT ENGLISH AND HAS AN UNUSUALLY BROAD APPROACH TO INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS ISSUES. HE HAS A GREAT DEAL OF EXPERIENCE IN ECONOMIC POLICY AREAS AND IS SAID TO BE A VERY STRONG LEADER. OUR JUDGMENT IS, HOWEVER, THAT HE IS UNLIKELY TO BE AVAILABLE. YOU SHOULD THEREFORE PUT HIM IN THE CATEGORY BELOW THE CUTOFF LINE FOR OUR PRIORITY PREFERENCES THAT IS HE SHOULD NOT BE CONTACTED WITHOUT FURTHER CONSULTATION WITH US.

2. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF BRIEF BIO SUMMARY. LENGTHIER VERSION FOLLOWS BY POUCH.

BEGIN TEXT: A LIBERAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY (LDP) EXPERT ON INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC AFFAIRS, KIICHI MIYAZAWA, 56, HAS  
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BEEN FOREIGN MINISTER SINCE DECEMBER 1974. THE SMOOTHNESS

WIT, WHICH HE HAS HANDLED HIS POST HAS EARNED HIM A REPUTATION AS A COMER IN THE LDP. MIYAZAWA'S SUCCESSFUL

HANDLING OF THE NEGOTIATIONS LEADING TO THE RESTORATION OF CIVIL AIR TIES WITH TAIWAN IN APRIL 1975 AND TO THE REESTABLISHMENT OF THE MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE WITH KOREA IN SEPTEMBER HAS IMPRESSED PARTY CONSERVATIVES, WHO WERE ONCE INCLINED TO SUSPECT HIM BECAUSE OF HIS LIBERAL IMAGE. MIYAZAWA HAS LONG BEEN CONSIDERED A TECHNOCRAT, BUT HE IS NOW BELIEVED TO HAVE STRONG AMBITIONS FOR A SENIOR POLITICAL LEADERSHIP ROLE.

IN JUNE 1976 MIYAZAWA AND SOUTH KOREAN FOREIGN MINISTER PAK TONG-CHIN AGREED THAT JAPAN AND KOREA SHOULD ADOPT A JOINT STRATEGY TO DEAL WITH THE KOREAN QUESTION AT THE 1976 UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY. MIYAZAWA HAS EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER HOW THE UNITED STATES WOULD HANDLE ITS SECURITY TREATY WITH TAIWAN SHOULD IT NORMALIZE RELATIONS WITH THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA. HE FAVORS CLOSE JAPANESE RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES, INCLUDING MAINTENANCE OF THE MUTUAL SECURITY TREATY. MIYAZAWA IS WELL DISPOSED TOWARD THIS COUNTRY, PARTLY BECAUSE HIS EXCELLENT ENGLISH HAS ENABLED HIM TO FORM PERSONAL TIES WITH MANY AMERICANS.

A FORMER FINANCE MINISTRY BUREAUCRAT, MIYAZAWA HAS HELD THREE PREVIOUS CABINET POSTS, AND HE HAS BEEN A MEMBER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES SINCE 1967. INTELLIGENT AND PERCEPTIVE, HE IS A COMPETENT ADMINISTRATOR WITH A SCHOLARLY, URBANE MANNER. HE KEEPS HIS OWN COUNSEL AND DOES NOT ALWAYS LET THE FOREIGN OFFICE BUREAUCRACY KNOW WHAT HE IS THINKING. MARRIED, MIYAZAWA HAS TWO CHILDREN. END TEXT. KISSINGER

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